made the lower gum bleed, for the first time since the day on which they were lanced—this stopped at the time, spontaneously—child much reduced.

May 17.—The father of the child wrote to say that I need not call till the evening, as the bleeding had not returned; but at half-past 2 P. M. I was sent for in a great hurry—the lower gum having burst out bleeding very profusely. I applied the hot iron—child very restless, and, in consequence, the application was not perfect, and blood continuing to ooze;—I repeated the application two hours afterwards, and the result was complete success—the child threw up about half an ounce of blood, and passed blood in some of its stools afterwards. A few days after the last application of the hot iron, a lower tooth made its appearance in the very spot from which the bleeding came. No fever, of any consequence, remained after the day the gums were lanced on. I do not think that the bleeding would have returned, had it not been provoked, in the first instance, by the accidental circumstance above mentioned, as 40 hours had elapsed since the first bleeding had been stopped. The child is of a scrofulous habit, and had been taking a small quantity of calomel for his fever—perhaps these may, in some measure account, coupled with the unhealthy tendency of blood to the brain, for this unusual bleeding from the simple division of the gums.

MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACY.

17. *Solidification of Turpentine by Magnesia.*—From M. Mialhe's experiments on copaiba, and M. Faure's on turpentine, it appears that these oleo-resinous juices are most readily solidified by magnesia. The quantity of the latter, however, that is necessary to form a solid mass varies in using different species of turpentine. In this respect there is a marked difference between the common turpentines, such as those of Bordeaux, and the fine sorts, such as the Venetian, which require a much greater quantity than the former. M. Mouchon found that an ounce of Briançon turpentine mixed with an ounce of hydrocarbonate of magnesia, formed a pilular mass, which was a long time before it hardened even a little, and the pills made from which soon loose their globular form.

An ounce of Bordeaux turpentine, with six drachms one scruple of hydrocarbonated magnesia, makes pills which harden very slowly, but eventually become pulverulent.

An ounce of Bordeaux turpentine and eight grains of oxide of magnesium, procured by intense calcination, gives a very soft mass, which does not take on a pilular consistence before thirty-six hours. After a few days it resists, in a slight degree, the impress of the fingers, but is truly fragile for a long time. By augmenting the quantity of magnesia, the hardening of the mass takes place more promptly; but to have pills consistent in a few minutes, and to have a magistral preparation, the proportion of magnesia must be increased to a 50th. Pills thus made are pulverulent in forty-eight hours, are transparent, and have a vitreous fracture.

These facts and experiments of M. Faure, repeated by M. M. Guibourt, Lecanu, and Blandeau, lead to the following practical conclusions:—

1. *Carbonated* magnesia should be preferred and employed in equal proportion to solidify Briançon turpentine.
2. When the turpentine of the *Pinus abies* is to be rendered solid, *calcined* magnesia is preferable.
3. The proportions of both should be smaller according to the length of time since the turpentine was collected.
4. In acting on the turpentine of the Pinus abies, reduced by time to a medium consistence, the solidification is effected in thirty-six hours, by means of a fraction of oxide of magnesium equivalent to about 1-72 of the mass.—*Journal de Chimie Méd. July*, 1834.

18. *Dupuytren's Pommade to prevent the Hair from falling out.*—Macerate a drachm of powdered cantharides in an ounce of spirits of wine, and filter. Take ten parts of this tincture and rub it in a mortar with ninety parts of cold lard.

19. Horne's *new preparation of the Acetum Opii Sedativum.*—Take three times the quantity of the best opium, reduced to fine powder, that is ordered by the London Pharmacopœia for two pints of tincture; add to the opium two pints of dilute acetic acid; after they have digested a few hours, add to them six or eight pints of rectified spirits of wine; macerate about seven days, then carefully filter, in order to separate the insoluble parts of the opium. Introduce the liquor into a retort, accurately closed, and distil off the spirit. The product in the retort, after the spirit has all passed over, is the required *acetum opii sedativum.*

If the distillation be carefully conducted, the result will always prove of one uniform strength — 1 ♏ equivalent to iij♏. tincturæ opii, and free from spirit, and will keep unchangeable for an indefinite time. The acetum opii sedativum will be found the same, or very similar, to Mr. Battley's liq. opii sedativus (except in the strength, which latter falls short, according to the opinion of our most able experimentalists, as nearly j. to ij. instead of j. to iij.;) a preparation too well known to require describing, except in regard to its mode of formation, which the preparer, in spite of his ranking as a scientific druggist, has hitherto kept a profound secret: should this slight effort of mine be the means of eliciting that secret, my object, in part, will be attained.

The rationale of the process may be briefly stated as follows. The acetic acid unites with the morphia of the opium, and forms an acetate of morphia, which is held in solution by the diluted acid; the remaining ingredients of the opium, acted on by the rectified spirits of wine, are extracted, and detained by the acid, after the spirit has been distilled over. I shall be happy to give a full description, if required by any of your numerous correspondents, should the subject be considered of sufficient interest to be allowed to excite inquiry in your useful and scientific journal.—*London Medical Gazette*, Jan. 17, 1835.

THERAPEUTICS.

20. *Diabetes Mellitus cured by Kreosote.*—Professor Berndt, having been unsuccessful in his treatment of seven cases of Diabetes mellitus, by the various methods recommended by authors, was induced to try in the eighth, the kreosote. The following are the particulars of this case, as given in *Kleinert's Repertorium* for 1835.

The patient was a man, fifty years of age, ill for the last sixteen months; he passed daily seven Berlin quarts of turbid urine, sweet to the taste and smell, and containing a good deal of sugar; the patient was feeble, his appetite very great, and he was tormented by constant thirst; his sleep was disturbed by the frequent necessity of making water, but he had no hectic fever. The treatment was commenced by administering a vomit, which brought away some acid-smelling matters. Rollo's plan of treatment was then employed for some days, and ipecacuanha was given in small doses; this produced no good effect, and instead of the ipecacuanha, eight drops of kreosote were administered in the form of pill every day. The quantity of urine now excreted diminished to three, two and a half, and two quarts per day. It appeared at first to contain a large proportion of alkalies, particularly ammonia, and remained troubled. The dose of the kreosote was gradually increased, and after three weeks Rollo's regimen was abandoned on account of the disgust it excited in the patient. At this time the urine gave the odour of horse's urine, contained less sugar, and exhibited the first traces of urea, though it continued still turbid. Under the common diet and increased doses of kreosote, the urine diminished to two or one quart and a half; it was occasionally clear, gave an acid reaction; the quantity of sugar became daily less, and that of urea greater. After some time the patient's state was evidently improved. He now took twenty-four drops a day, his appetite was good, and his thirst much less, and the urine flowed at from one and a quarter to one quart and three quarters per day. In a few days more it assumed a natural colour, contained all the ingredients of normal urine, and ceased to give any trace of sugar.

21. *Principles of Treatment of Neuralgic Affections.* By Wm. Stokes, M. D. (Extracted from his lectures on the Theory and Practice of Medicine.)—In en-